"The South 40"
by JAMES A. SMITH
EXTENSION AGENT

Lightweight cattle are not bringing the money that heavier weights (700-800) cattle are bringing. All indications are that cattle should do equally as well this fall. This would suggest that if you have pasture to sell the best market may be through light weight calves. They will need to be wormed and given an implant. Any gain they put on this summer would be profit.

* * *

Looks like we are about 2 weeks later this spring than last year. Last year I harvested asparagus on April 1, this year it was April 14. This is a good indicator of soil temperature.

* * *

Last week pastures on the farms of C. E. McLaughlin and O. H. Tolley were renovated using the zip seeder.

This week a pasture on the W. W. Wallis farm will be seeded with this equipment.

It's getting late to use this equipment, but this fall will be an excellent time to consider using it. We expect to have the equipment available for Appomattox farmers this fall. There are perhaps several thousand acres of pasture in this county that need renovation. We'll be glad to schedule the equipment for your use. There's no charge for use of the seeder.

* * *

Root crops are important vegetables for the home garden.

Beets are sometimes troublesome in getting stands. Beets should be seeded and walked down to make good soil contact. Never cover with more than one half inch of soil. A band of sawdust will help if soil tends to crust over.

Beets grow rapidly and need to be thinned several times. The final thinning should leave the stand 3 inches apart. Don't throw the young plants away. The leaves can be cooked similar to turnip greens and provide an enjoyable meal.

If you have'nt tried Ruby Queen, this should be the year. It produces a high quality product.

Kennebec is probably the best potatoes to use because it is resistant to mossaic and late blight. It's also a heavy producer.

* * *

There are some advocates that say we should obtain our protein needs through grain rather than passing grain through livestock and eating the meat.

A nutritionist at the University of Arizona points out that a ton of corn contains 8% cereal protein or 160 pounds. A ton of grain can finish a 650 feeder steer to a choice grade finish weight of 1056 pounds.

That steer yields 660 pounds of carcass which is 17% or 112 pounds of available protein.

Using a net protein utilization scale with a top score of 100, beef protein rates 80 and corn 56. This means a higher proportion of beef protein is assimilated by the human body.

Using the net protein utilization factor as a per cent and multiplying it by the amount of available protein from both grain and beef sources the results are indentical. Given the choice, most of us would prefer the beef.

PRECIPITATION:

Last Week	0
This Month	1.04
This Year	23.33

NATIONAL YWCA WEEK APR 20-26

Appomattox County . . . Yesterday And Today

by Paul Ghisto

(Author's note: This week's article was written based on information supplied by Mrs. Rachel F. Lawson, well-known local resident)

Known at one time as "The Old Robertson Brick Place" but perhaps better known as simply "The Brick House", the building pictured above is one of the pre-Civil War landmarks in Appomattox County. Located just west of the Town of Appomattox on U. S. 460, it is owned by the heirs of the late State Senator and Mrs. Samuel Lewis Ferguson. A number of the children were born here, including Mrs. Rachel Lawson, the family's only surviving member.

The Fergusons acquired the house and 508 acres with it from E. B. Davidson, John R. Martin and others on April 2, 1900. These grantors had previously been deeded the property in January, 1880 by Eliza S. Robertson. Local resident Herbert Pulliam recalled that Mr. Ferguson had to go to the bank and borrow a quarter before he could send a telegram saying he would buy the property. Times were that tight then.

Passers-by may notice that "The Brick House's" architecture is very similar to that of the historical McLean House. A large kitchen and dining room are in the basement while two spacious rooms and a hallway are on the first floor. In keeping with the antebellum style, two stairways lead to the two bedrooms and sewing room on the second floor. A single, steep stairway leads from the second floor to the third floor's two rooms, making a total of eight rooms.

Bloodstains on the 3rd story floors lends credence to the story that rooms there were used as wards for wounded soldiers during the Civil War's last days.

Large fireplaces in most of the rooms supplied heat along with some stoves. A big cooking stove was in the basement kitchen.

Kerosene lamps, some with glass bases and others for the parlor with nickel bases, gave needed light. (Lamp globes and wicks were bought by the dozen from the "Atwood General Merchandise Store" located on the corner of Main Street where a drugstore was later built.)

The first telephone in the county was installed in the house with a direct line to Mr. Ferguson's law office.

An old-fashioned ice house was conveniently located near "The Brick House". Cut from the farm's "tank pond", ample ice was stored here during the winter months. Here too, could be found large pails of cold milk and coolers of water with perishable foods kept fresh in a special storage place.

The farm's large acreage was worked extensively in the early 1900's. Fruit orchards, consisting mainly of apple and peach trees, were cultivated. The fruit was sold locally and then shipped to market in barrels and bushel baskets.

Corn shucking, wheat threshing and wheat threshing and fruit picking times were always exciting as friends, neighbors and high school boys gathered to help on these occasions. Large quantities of food were prepared and served "picnic style".

At one time, V.P.I. Extension Service of Blacksburg conducted an experiment station on the farm, concentrating on small grains and fruits. The late Mr. Bernard G. Anderson, whose widow Ella now lives in Appomattox, directed the project. (Mr. Anderson was the county's first automobile owner. A bright red compact car, its make was a "Brush". Children in town would be in front of the Anderson home early in the morning, hoping to ride to "The Brick House" with him and then walk back home. Mr. Anderson, very kind and patient, always carried the limit and made sure that the same ones did not ride every day.)

Mrs. Ferguson had as a hobby one time the raising of turkeys. As proof of the hobby's profitability, she saved sufficient money to purchase a ten-piece silver service set and had her given name "Adelia" engraved on each piece.

A herd of registered black angus cattle was started in 1940 and also proved profitable until disposed of in 1960.

In the past forty years many acres of the farm property have been sold - most of them as commercial lots. The present Primary School, as well as the State Highway Resident Engineer's Office, was constructed on part of the property. The residential development from the United Methodist Church, and including Robinson Funeral Home, was once part of "The Brick House's" acreage. Most recently, Thomasville Furniture Industries, Inc. built its modern plant across U. S. 460 from the house on property which was formerly used to pasture cattle.

Today in 1975 the house gazes forlornly out upon the highway which leads into the town it has known so well. Its empty rooms contain many memories of times now past. But yet, despite these facts, it was in this farm home, always open to friends, relatives and strangers, that Southern hospitality once reigned supreme.

LOOKING BACK . . .

This school had an enrollment of 59 in 1895:

a.) West Appomattox b.) Arcanum c.) Nebraska d.) Spout Springs

2. This was the Hotel Appomattox's daily rate in 1896:

a.) $2.00 b.) $.50 c.) $4.25 d.) $1.50

3. He was in the casket business in Pamplin city:

a.) Richards b.) Sampson c.) Clark d.) W. T. Clark

4. Hotel Appomattox here:

a.) West b.) Pamplin c.) Hixburg

5. Elected as Anti-Saloon League:

a.) R. F. Boyd b.) D. W. Mott c.) D. W. Mott Fisher

Questions to Appomattox

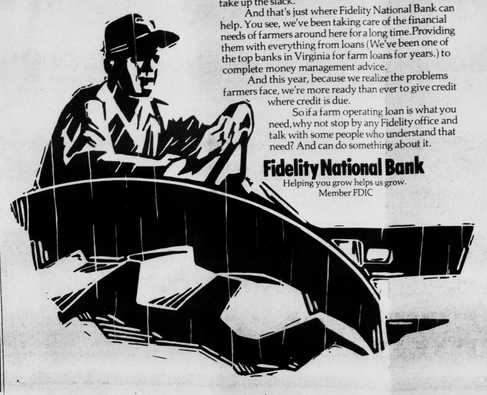
Still having nightmares about that time you sailed into a farmer's chickenyard? And there were problems over your insurance coverage.

Make your dreams sweet again. By talking to the experts on trouble: your independent insurance agent. We represent you first, work to expedite claims settlements fast. And fairly.

If we can't help you, nobody can.

YOUR Independent INSURANCE AGENT

J. A. BURKE & CO., INC.
2 Main St., Appomattox, Va.



We think it's time someone gave farmers the credit they deserve.

Over the years, farmers have learned to survive without getting a lot of credit for what they do. In fact, they've managed to get along quite well without it.

But there's one kind of credit they can't do without. And that's financial credit.

The kind that takes care of seasonal operating expenses. Like fertilizer, seed, labor and chemicals.

The kind that helps them meet the constantly rising costs of agri-business. (Like nitrogen, that's gone from 10¢ to 30¢ a pound.) As well as helping them deal with its constantly fluctuating (and sometimes marginal) rewards.

The problem is that with agriculture getting to be a tougher business than ever these days, this kind of credit is getting tougher than ever to find.

For one thing, "crop time credit" is practically gone and probably won't be with us again anytime soon. What's more, not enough banks seem to understand farming, its problems and its promise well enough to take up the slack.

And that's just where Fidelity National Bank can help. You see, we've been taking care of the financial needs of farmers around here for a long time. Providing them with everything from loans (We've been one of the top banks in Virginia for farm loans for years.) to complete money management advice.

And this year, because we realize the problems farmers face, we're more ready than ever to give credit where credit is due.

So if a farm operating loan is what you need, why not stop by any Fidelity office and talk with some people who understand that need? And can do something about it.

Fidelity National Bank
Helping you grow helps us grow.
Member FDIC

Limited Time - Sale Ends April
Savings on Interior and Exterio
American Paints.

Economy
-Standard
& Best!

our best quali
Acry
Late
Hous
Pain

our best quality
Interior
Latex
Flat Wall
Decorati

Other Quality American Hardware Pain
at Similar Savings.

Poe Hardware Co.
Church Street Appo

1965 **1975**

"A Decade Of Growth"

WITH CONFIDENCE,
First National Bank
MOVES AHEAD . . . !

$40,000,00?

In 1965 First National Bank reached a milestone in its history when our assets reached $13,000,000.

In 1971, less than six years later, we doubled the above amount to $26,000,000. And now, today, thanks to our many friends and valued customers throughout Southside Virginia, we have reached yet another milestone, as our assets now total $40,000,000.

Without your continued confidence in a home-owned, independent bank, it would not have been possible. What more can we say but simply . . . "THANK YOU!"

"FARMVILLE'S ONLY HOME-OWNED INDEPENDENT BANK"
—ORGANIZED 1900—

First National Bank
OF FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA
MAIN OFFICE CORNER OF THIRD AND MAIN STREETS, FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA
BRANCH OFFICES:
• Farmville Shopping Center
• College Plaza Shopping Center
• West End Branch, Farmville • Pamplin City, Va.

Your nextdoor neighbor.

Pamplin City Branch